--- 20 Cigarettes - Series “C” - “Benson & Hedges” - [1-80E] - 1966 ---

The Canadian operations of “Benson and Hedges” was established by Arthur Walsh, a London (U.K.) bookkeeper who had been placed in charge of their New York branch in 1895, and who opened the first “Benson and Hedges” store in Montreal in 1906.

In the late 1920’s “Benson and Hedges” moved into the Canadian cigar market when they purchased the assets of “J. Hirsch and Sons Ltd.”, Montreal - who had been manufacturing cigars since the 1880’s.

In July 1958 “Philip Morris Incorporated” (which had merged with “Benson and Hedges”, New York, in 1954) also merged with “Benson and Hedges” (Canada) Limited [8-10D], and in 1961 opened a modern cigarette factory at Brampton, Ontario [1-80-E].

In 1962 “Benson and Hedges” (Canada) Limited purchased “Tabacofina of Canada” [30-10D] and acquired their cigarette factory in Montreal, where “Tabacofina” had for some years manufactured *Belvedere* cigarettes. The company’s range of cigarettes included *Parliament; Alpine; Benson & Hedges* 100 mm., plain and menthol; *Mark* 10, plain and menthol; *Belvedere*, and *Belmont*. After this date production was moved to the new factory [1-80-E] in Brampton, Ontario.

--- 20 Cigarettes - Series “C” - “Benson & Hedges” - [80E-1] - 1968-69 ---

The following series found on the imperforate twenty cigarette Series “C” uses a heavy 5 mm. Gothic letter as a date code. They come from the period post-1965 (after the code reversal to **80E 1**). From the presence of three vowels in the ten letters, I feel that these probably form a twelve letter code word reading as the months, but possibly they form a complete twenty-six letter alphabetic sequence.

Counting those used on the twenty-five cigarette stamp (used by their affiliate “Canadian Tabacofina”), and adding those from “Benson & Hedges”, the letters **A**, **C**, **E**, **H**, **I**, **K**, **L**, **O**, **R**, **T** and **W** have been collected from this sequence.

★**RC-386** - 20 cigarettes, imperf, coded **T / 80 . E . 1 / T** by “Benson & Hedges”

--- in black ink - 2 copies to date ---

-- -- **C** -- **E** -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- -- **T** -- -- --

on eBay - **C** in black ink (I use gold in the table simply to indicate that the collection ***does not contain*** a copy of this item)

--- 20 Cigarettes - “Wings” Series - Benson & Hedges - [80E-1] - 1971-74 ---

Then follows a numbered sequence on **RC-815** - the imperforate twenty cigarette ***Wings*** Series stamp - using a heavy Gothic typeface, running from **01** to **81** (the highest found to date).

The use of the imperforate twenty cigarette ***Wings*** Series seems to have begun with **01** in January 1969. If this number sequence ends at **80** (in August 1974), and if they represent *monthly production*, then the series covers 80 ÷ 12 = 6 years and 8 months (see below).

★**RC-815** - 20 cigarettes, imperf, coded **01 / 80 · E · 1 / 01** by “Benson & Hedges”

--- in BLACK ink - with 80 . E . 1 reading *vertically down* on the stamp - 40 copies to date ---

[★RC-817]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1968	**01**	**02**	**03**	---	**05**	---	---	**08**	--	**10**	---	**12**
1969	**13**	---	**15**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**24**
1970	**25**	**26**	---	---	**29**	**30**	**31**	**32**	**33**	---	**35**	---
1971	---	**38**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1972	---	**50**	---	**52**	**53**	---	---	**56**	**57**	---	**59**	---
1973	**61**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**70**	**71**	**72**
1974	**73**	**74**	---	**76**	---	**78**	---	**80**	---	---	---	---

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If the use of the imperforate *twenty-five* cigarette “Wings” Series had begun with **01** in January 1968, it ends at **80** in August 1974.

File path is [c:\ MS - STAMPS \ RC_STAMPS \ 1935 - Series C \ 20 cigarettes \ 80E-1 - small - black cancels],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
December 22nd 2013, JBH